



The Guardian

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Hanging In There: The Real Impacts of Low Staffing

By Sergeant Ty Elster, Board Position 8

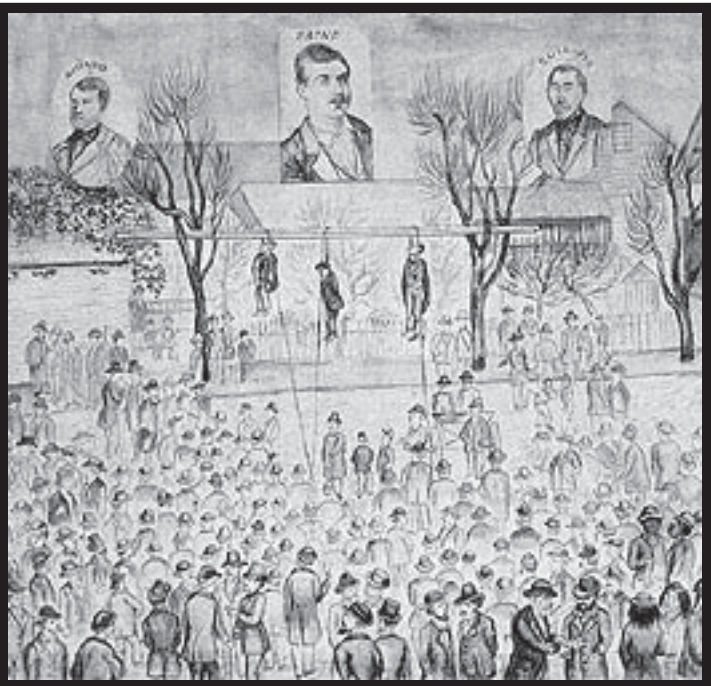
It was a typically cool January afternoon and the town’s folk were growing restless! The year was 1882, and the City of Seattle had already experienced the first police officer killed in the line of duty. This sense of unease was exacerbated when popular local merchant, George B. Reynolds, was murdered at the hands of two robbers.

Having endured this recent crime wave, the good citizens of Seattle were troubled by how slowly the wheels of justice were turning. After all, a suspect in the slaying of Seattle’s first fallen police officer, Officer David Sires, was still cooling his heels in the County jail. And that murder had occurred three months prior to this latest brutal killing!

On this afternoon, the tone of the City was growing uglier by the minute as outrage spread over the previous day’s brutal slaying of Reynolds during an armed robbery. The local citizenry apprehended the two miscreants and turned them over to police officers a mere 4-hours after the murder. The two suspects were then held until they could be arraigned the next day. After lengthy testimony, the judge declared that there was sufficient cause to hold the men for trial and remanded them into the custody of the King County Sheriff. Having little patience for drawn out legal proceedings, a mob suddenly rushed the officers. Overpowering them, the mob took custody of the prisoners. They were bent on revenge and a brand of justice that is only found at the end of a rope. With only the King County Sheriff, Seattle Police Chief and two officers to overpower, the mob had little trouble overwhelming the authorities and having their way with the prisoners.

With the perception that crime was out of control in the fledgling City, the citizens were intent upon sending a message to others that Seattle was anything but an easy target. The City fathers were about to find out that the taxpayers of Seattle were very disgruntled about this appearance of leniency in the local courts. Seattleites demanded swift and appropriate justice and if the City wasn’t going to give it to them, they would have to take matters into

their own hands. As a result, the mob also stormed the King County Jail where they had little trouble breaking the accused cop killer out of jail. He was then taken to Occidental Square (north side of James St. between 1st and 2nd) along with the two suspects from the courthouse. Once there, a



Artist’s rendering of the 1882 hanging in Seattle
Courtesy of www.HistoryLink.org

makeshift gallows had been erected and the three murderers met their fate at the end of the mob’s rope! Despite the fact that well over two thousand spectators were on hand to witness the event, no one was ever arrested for the lynchings!

A short time later, *The Seattle Chronicle* printed the finding of the coroner’s jury: “We the jury summoned in the above case find that [name] came to his death by hanging, but from the evidence furnished we are unable to find by whose hands. We are satisfied that in his death substantial and speedy justice has been served.” The paper also provided letters of congratulations from the citizens of Port Townsend and Olympia. Locals would later comment that the lynchings were only able to

proceed because Seattle’s police force was so severely understaffed!

The gallows remained in place for another seven years as a warning to others who mistook Seattle as an easy target!

124 years later, Seattle has made little, if any progress in the area of our slow moving court system. And we continue to be plagued with too many lenient judges who have more respect and regard for prisoner’s rights than those of the honest taxpayers whom they prey upon! However, the most interesting fact that is revealed by our own history, is the fact that the Seattle Police Department was understaffed in 1882 much the same way that it is now. And an understaffed department manifests itself on the streets as a noticeable absence of police officers.

In recent years we have had a number of examples of what can happen in the absence of law enforcement. The most recent occurred in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina. In this extreme example, we witnessed the very fabric of society come apart at the seams virtually overnight. And closer to home, in February 2001 during Mardi Gras, Pioneer Square once again suffered the effects of total lawlessness when there was **no police presence!** Mob rule was the order of the day and resulted in the untimely death of Kris Kime and injuries to numerous others!

To obtain a clearer picture of our staffing problems, all that is required is to visit a few roll calls. Merely counting the number of bodies present reveals the magnitude of the situation. In very short order, even our detractors would agree that we are understaffed. This is substantiated by a recent AP news story written by Michael J. Sniffin. His report flatly states that the Seattle Police Department is severely understaffed. In his article, he cites the FBI’s report “Crime in the United States-2004.” The report indicates that cities of 250,000 or more have an average of 2.8 sworn police personnel per 1,000

Continued on Page 3

IN THIS ISSUE...

- 4 The “Call Box”
- 8 History Corner
- 9 Inaugural Bacon Bowl Run

You’ll Also Find:

President’s Message	2	Health and Safety	8
Happy Anniversary	3	Retired News	10
Warriors in Blue	3	Last Ring	11
Officer of the Month..	5	Editor’s Notes	12



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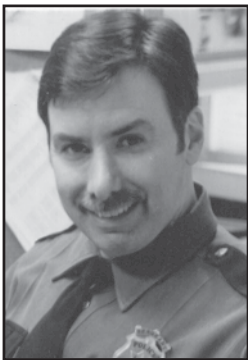
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President's Message

By Sergeant Rich O'Neill, SPOG President



Activities at SPOG have certainly not slowed down for the summer. If anything, things have heated up along with the rising thermometer. There have been several issues that can make one get a little hot under the collar. The first issue is the department's reaction to the shooting involving Officer Zsolt Dornay. Officer Dornay was brutally beaten by a group of suspects just after midnight on June 23rd. In fear of his life, Officer Dornay fired his handgun and struck one of the individuals involved. As is the procedure, our SPD Homicide Unit responded and began the investigation. Our Homicide Unit is second to none! They have investigated more homicides and shootings involving officers than any other unit in the Pacific Northwest. Along with that experience, they have the technical expertise and unparalleled reputation throughout the region. When it is learned that one of the individuals involved is a well-known local attorney, the Chief makes the unprecedented decision to remove our homicide detectives from the case to "avoid any appearance of bias." What is that saying to our detectives? Because the shooting involves a Seattle Police Officer you can't be unbiased? This is an insult to these fine detectives. SPD Homicide has proven that they are unbiased. I have seen their work at Firearms Review Boards. I have seen when their investigation has led to a finding of an "unjustified shooting." To imply that they would not conduct an unbiased investigation is truly insulting to not only them but every Seattle police officer. Unfortunately in my career, I have seen SPD officers have to arrest "one of their own." I have seen members of our department actually handcuff "one of their own." Everyday in OPA, sergeants interview and investigate allegations against their fellow officers and those investigations have led to discipline up to and including termination. So why handle this investigation any differently? One of the reasons given was that there were "conflicting accounts of what happened." Excuse me, but I have never seen a crime scene where there are not at least two-sides of the story. Especially when the guilty party has a lot to lose and tries to justify their actions by offering a different account! Ever heard of the dream team and O.J.? It seems to me that this incident was handled in this fashion only because one of the individuals involved was an attorney. Pure and simple! Would we be doing this if the guy was a cab driver, or a bartender, or a landscaper? That is why SPOG released a press release on June 30th voicing our objections. In the press release, we suggested that if we follow this misguided logic in removing SPD Homicide from the investigation because a SPD officer is involved, wouldn't the same logic say that the King County prosecutor's office should be removed because a well-known local attorney is involved? When I spoke with a representative from the prosecutor's office and voiced this argument, he told me that the prosecutor's office has a long history of unbiased proceedings and that they have filed charges against many attorneys and even some judges. I told him that I agreed and they do have an outstanding reputation, BUT SO DOES SPD HOMICIDE! My point was made! We all need to watch this

situation very closely. We should not rest until the thugs who beat Officer Dornay are brought to justice, whatever their occupations happen to be! As for the Chief's decision, every employee wants to know that their boss has confidence in their work and will stand up for their integrity. It is a shame that another opportunity to show confidence was lost!

When I was elected I vowed to improve communications on all fronts and it is a daily task. Part of communication involves dealing with the press. I have openly reached out to members of the press and returned their calls. I should clarify that there is only one member of the print media who I will not talk to. In an effort to write one of his sensational tabloid-like articles, he harassed one of our member's elderly parents with unwanted phone calls. When you do that, you get on "my list." The only other person on "the list" is a local radio commentator who engaged in unfair "shock-jock" type tactics during an interview. As I told him, I don't need "softballs" thrown my way but at least be respectful. When you have to create an issue to rant about every single day, I guess you need to resort to that type of journalism.

I chose to respond to the press about the recent arrest of bicycle demonstrators by the King County Sheriff Deputies. I chose to respond because I have been inundated with concerns from SPD officers about the on-going activities of the sheriff's office. It is not rocket science and I don't think it is very complicated. The Sheriff should handle transit only. Unless it is an emergency, leave everything else to SPD. When the deputies are running names in the parks and alleys, it tends to upset the membership who views that as their work. Most importantly, IT IS DANGEROUS! When agencies are operating in plain clothes on different frequencies, it does not take a genius to see that it could have a disastrous outcome. No one doubts that deputies have authority inside Seattle. WSP has authority anywhere in the state, but don't you think it would create tension if they decided to set up a jaywalking duck pond at 5th and Pine? On that same note, wouldn't it create tension if some of our traffic units began running radar on the I-5 ship canal? After all, SPD has jurisdiction up there. We need to all get along and be reasonable. Everyone knows that some units are pushed by commanders to justify their existence by generating stats! I believe that is what is going on in this situation. Members who have worked metro know that if you focus just on transit issues, there are only so many stats out there! My job is to defend and speak out for SPD officers and for that I have no regrets!

Finally, I'd like to close by announcing a new change in the standing rules for the legal defense fund. In the past the legal defense fund was used by SPOG members who had to defend themselves against unjust allegations in the courts. The city has recently begun a disturbing pattern of appealing judgments won by officers when they appeal their discipline at the Public Safety Civil Service Commission. When an officer goes before the civil service commission they often argue the case themselves. These cases often involve days off or a disciplinary transfer. If the officer is successful, the city has sometimes appealed the ruling to superior court. This move now forces the officer to retain an attorney to represent them in superior court. The officer is forced to weigh if it is worth the expense over a couple days off or a transfer. The SPOG Board of Directors has approved the changes to the legal defense fund to allow a SPOG member to apply for funds in these appeal situations. Again the officer needs to win the case first at civil service, and then the department has to appeal that ruling, in order for the member to apply for legal defense funds. Another obvious option is for the department to just accept the ruling of civil service and move on to the next case. There are no shortages of cases in the pipeline that is for sure! I'd like to commend Secretary/Treasurer Tom Umporowicz for his work on this issue. Until next time, always be safe!

SPOG Endorses Mike Hope

44th District State Representative Position 1 (R)



From Left to Right: Rich O'Neill, SPOG President, Officer Mike Hope, Roger Dixon, SPOG Vice President

Hanging In There

Continued from Page 1

residents. Seattle’s ratio, based on the city’s own 2006 authorized strength of 1,277 sworn employees equates to 2.23 officers per 1,000 residents. If the department brought sworn staffing levels up to the national average per 1,000 residents for cities of 250,000 or more, there would be 326 more police officers on the Department. And that’s just to reach the “average” staffing level!

Adding to our staffing crisis is the department’s inability to attract sufficient numbers of qualified people to work for our Department. Unfortunately, there are a number of factors that are driving applicants away from SPD. One of which is the anti-police attitude of our city fathers and local media. Another factor is low entry-level wages! When you consider

that San Francisco’s starting salary, which is one of our comparables, is 36% more than SPD’s, you will start to understand why we are not attracting large numbers of new employees.

Now don’t get me wrong! I am in no way implying that lynch mobs will take over the city if we don’t get more cops on the street, but things can and will get very ugly if this crisis is not averted soon!

In regards to our history of slow moving courts, lenient judges and an understaffed police department I am reminded of a famous quote, “If history repeats itself, and the unexpected always happens, how incapable must Man be of learning from experience.” George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950).

Warriors in Blue

By Officer Mike Severance, Board Position 5

Several months ago I was taking a break from one of my many remodeling projects. I was relaxing in my recliner tipping a tall cold Evian, and channel surfing. I stumbled across the Municipal Channel just in time to see a Seattle City Council member expressing some displeasure with Patrol’s response times to calls. I jumped from my chair yelling, “I know the reason. We don’t have enough officers on the street to respond quickly to all the 911 calls for service.” One of our Assistant Chiefs was there, and he launched into a series of explanations about response times. None of them made much sense to me, and none of them contained even a hint that we do not have enough officers on the street. That’s probably why he is one of the Assistant Chiefs and I am just a cop.

The above was written by me and published in the *Guardian* in 1997, almost a decade ago. That Assistant Chief is gone, but I am still here and still unable to understand the thought process of the command staff.

Compared to our response times today, the response times of 1997 were superlative. There were no 4-hour response times to a DV disturbance. There were no 24-hour response times to an auto theft. I am certain many of you do the same thing I do when you log into service at the beginning of your shift. I check the calls waiting and see that most of them came in hours before I even started getting ready to come to work. I wish the citizens paying taxes for our services knew the truth.

I recently saw an IIS Complaint Notification, which gets my award for lunacy, at least for this week. An officer was dispatched to a non-injury traffic accident. One of the drivers filed a complaint against the officer because the officer talked to the other driver first. And the officer allegedly spent more time talking to the other driver than to the complainant. The taxpayer’s money is actually being spent to take and investigate complaints like this.

Well, here is my advice to you so that we can save the taxpayers some money and save yourself an IIS complaint. When you arrive at an accident scene, write numbers on small pieces of paper and put them in your hat. Explain to the drivers that they will be drawing a number out of your hat and that you will be interviewing them according to the number they draw. Of course, if a driver is injured, the officer will draw the number for that driver. Then, using the stopwatch issued to you by the Director of OPA, you will interview the drivers, giving equal time to each. All of this will be documented in your report. This is not a perfect solution because one of the drivers might complain that the other driver got to draw a number first.

I have said it before, and I will say it again. Common sense cannot be taught from a book, and it is not a part of any college degree. Any accountability system, which is not based upon common sense and a single standard of conduct, is a sham. When the current OPA Director’s term and our sentence is up next March, let us hope and pray that the next Director will strive to help forge a system based upon common sense which will promote effective law enforcement rather than obstruct it.

Have you ever pondered the definition of “war”? It’s one of those words which should never be mentioned in a politically correct environment like Seattle, but the Oxford English Dictionary defines it as “a sustained contest between rivals or campaign against something undesirable”. We are police officers, warriors in blue, and we should be engaged in a war against crime. That is our job. The citizens pay us to make this city safe, or at least safer. It has been my firm belief over the last 40 years that cops must always be fair. That’s a no brainer. But cops at times must also be tough within the legal boundaries which guide us. Tough and fair is neither a bad nor dishonorable combination. Without being fair all the time and tough when necessary, cops will never earn respect from the criminal element. If the criminals do not respect us, they will never have a healthy fear of us. If the criminals do not fear us, then we are in the process of loosing the war if we have not lost it already. Law abiding citizens have no reason to fear us. We are here for only one reason...to protect them.

The outgoing Director of OPA wants the department to start teaching us “de-escalation”, or “Stop or I’ll say stop again”. The Seattle City Charter gives only one person, the Chief of Police, the authority to decide and make policy for the department. By what authority the Director thinks she can dictate training is a mystery to me, but this is certainly not the first time she has ventured outside the boundaries of her authority. If de-escalation becomes the mantra of this department, I predict a further reduction in the respect given to this city’s police officers. No wars have ever been won by an army of cream puffs or an army of warriors who have been beaten down and inundated with negative reinforcement. Wars are won by armies whose leaders motivate their troops with positive reinforcement and proper, common sense, discipline. Does the current OPA system motivate you, or does it make you ask yourself why you even keep trying to win the war? What is your mindset going into a critical incident? Are you focused on survival, or are you worrying about the possibility of an IIS complaint?

Be safe out there.



Happy Anniversary

The *Guardian* Staff is pleased to announce the milestones achieved by the following SPOG members during the month of August!

35 Years of Service

Officer Jim Vandebogart, North Precinct

15 Years of Service

Detective James Manning, Narcotics
Officer Willie Askew, South Precinct
Officer Molly Clark, K9

5 Years of Service

Officer Wes Friesen, West Precinct



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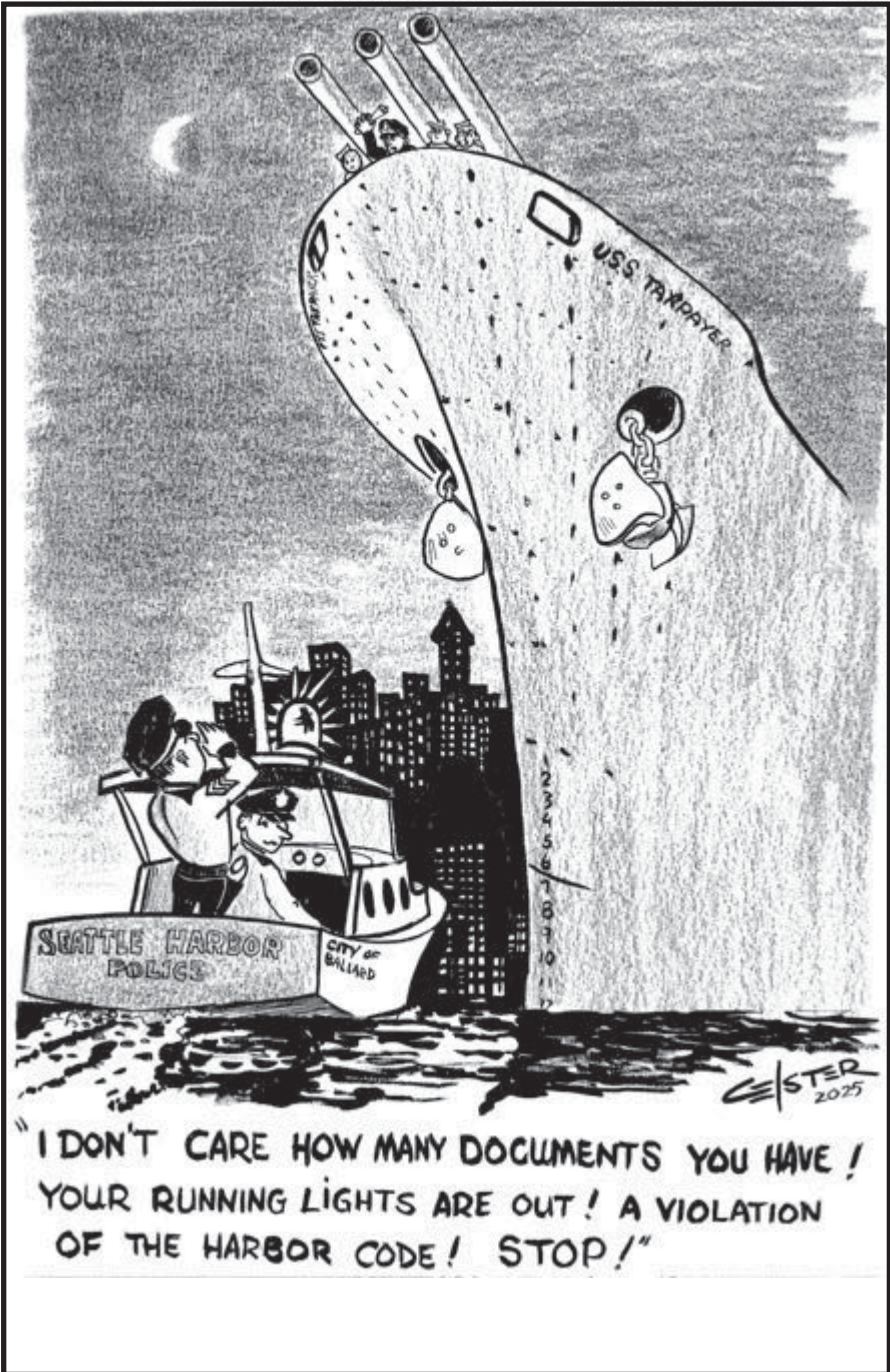
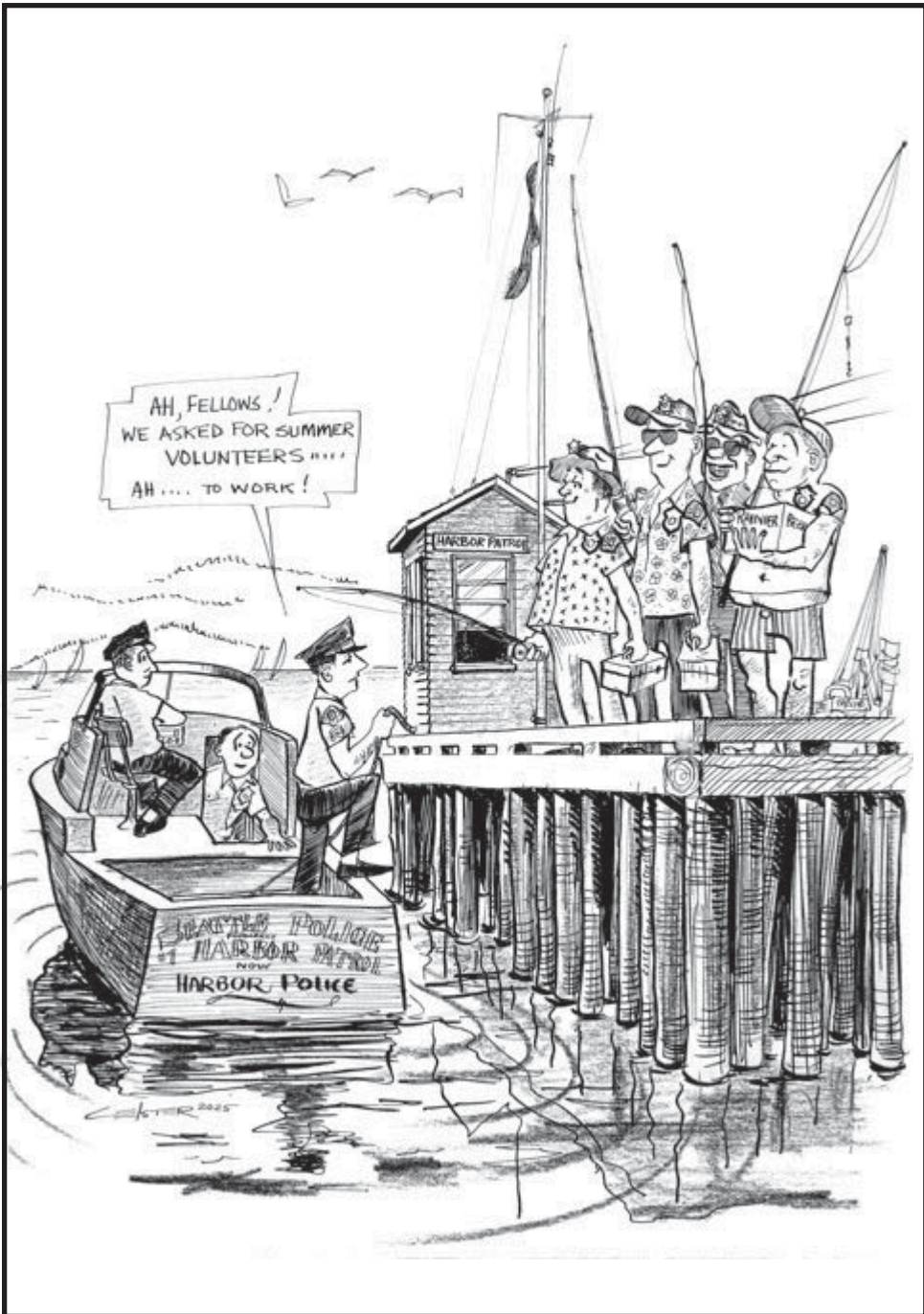
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The “Call Box”

By Sergeant Ty Elster, Board Position 8

Since we are in the middle of summer and many of us are wishing we could get out on the water, I thought that these two cartoons, featuring our Harbor Unit, were appropriate! Drawn by Clark Elster (SPD retired), they first appeared in the “Call Box” publication almost forty years ago! (And not to worry, I have enough cartoons to poke fun at most of our specialty units and command staff!)



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Officer of the Month

By Officer Christopher Hall, West Precinct

The SPOG Officers of the Month are Officer Ian Polhemus and Police Dog Kaiser of the K-9 Unit. They were nominated by Officer Chris McNulty of the North Precinct for their excellent work through the month of June.

Officer Polhemus and Kaiser were involved in the following incidents which earned them the Officer of the Month: On May 25th Officer Polhemus and Kaiser responded to a hit & run accident where the driver was a wanted member of the East African Posse. They were able to track the driver (after tracking two passengers) and facilitate all suspects being taken into custody.

On June 4th, while coming to work, Officer Polhemus and Kaiser on-viewed Tukwila PD trying to capture an auto theft suspect. Officer Polhemus and Kaiser tracked the suspect for Tukwila and found him hiding near the Duwamish River, allowing Tukwila to make the arrest.

On June 7th Officer Polhemus and Kaiser responded to a DV Burglary call. When they arrived, they saw the suspect, who immediately fled. Officer Polhemus and Kaiser tracked him and found him hiding in a tree. When the suspect was arrested, Officer Polhemus noticed the suspect did not have a bag with him, although the suspect had been carrying one when he was first spotted. Kaiser tracked down the bag, which had over 3 kilos of cocaine and over \$25,000 cash! Sergeant White commented in his endorsement, “a seizure that would make any drug dog handler envious!”

On June 12th, Officer Polhemus on-viewed a male tagging a business. Tired of being shown up by Kaiser’s running ability, Officer Polhemus chased this guy down and arrested him.

On June 13th Officer Polhemus and Kaiser were returning to their car after assisting officers on a call and discovered a male prowling their

patrol car! They arrested the drunk who was wearing Officer Polhemus’ hat when he was captured. Later in the shift, they responded to a car prowl and were able to track down evidence (the suspect’s jacket) despite the busy atmosphere in the fraternity area.

An excellent job all around for Officer Polhemus and PD Kaiser. Officer McNulty noted in his nomination that, “[Officer Polhemus] consistently demonstrates the highest level of professionalism and always sets the bar very high by example. Even so, I feel that he truly went above and beyond during the month of June.”

Also nominated this month were: Officers Chriseley Lang, Chris Myers and Dean Ikei of the West Precinct were nominated by Sergeant Daryl Charles for their response to a suicide call, where they were able to talk a suicidal male off the 4th floor ledge of a building and safely take him into custody.

Officers Michael Berndt, Chris Kelley, Danny Enriquez and Casey Sundin of the East Precinct were nominated by Sergeant Randy Yamanaka for their investigating and dogged pursuit of the suspect in a brutal DV assault case which led to the suspect’s arrest five days after the assault for assault, kidnapping, robbery and rape.

Officer David Marley of the North Precinct was nominated by Sergeant Paul Pendergrass for his unconventional approach to an ongoing problem (changing his hours and going in plain clothes) to track down a male performing numerous lewd acts near sorority houses. The change of tactics worked, as Officer Marley caught the suspect in the act of yet another lewd act and arrested the sex offender.

Another month of excellent work by our officers on a variety of calls and incidents. Keep those nominations rolling in and stay safe!

Veteran’s Preference

By Detective Steve Strand, Criminal Intelligence Section

There are several benefits to serving your Country in a time of war. Many of these benefits are pride, discipline, and selfless service. This plus \$5 will get you a nice bowl of soup. Of course if you are lucky enough to have been activated for at least 365 days since your hire date you qualify for additional points on your next promotional exam. That’s nice, but it doesn’t take the place of studying hard and months of preparation. So what do you get for putting your life on the line and staring down the enemy, during your country’s time of need? You may qualify for membership in the Veteran’s of Foreign Wars, or VFW.

When I returned from Iraq I was in a hurry to find a hall for a wedding reception. I had met my fiancée at Starbucks in Kuwait and was awaiting her arrival in Seattle. I can’t make up a story this good. She was coming to America on a Fiancée Visa which meant we only had 90 days to get married. We had found a beautiful church but since it was the Lent season, they frowned on decorations, music, drinking, etc. Looking for a nice reception hall I called “Shanghai” Pete at the VFW hall in West Seattle. He told me that I would receive the “Members Deal” if I joined up. Well, anybody that knows me knows I love a bargain. So, I got myself a life membership in the VFW and got married (another life membership). Before I could figure out what exactly the VFW was they voted me in as the Post Commander. Something about needing “new blood” and I wasn’t smart enough to turn them down. It’s been a few years now and I am still the Post Commander and still learning about the organization.

The VFW traces its’ roots to 1899 when veterans returning from the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection fought to secure rights and benefits for their service. The mission of the VFW is to “honor the dead by helping the living” through veterans’ service, community service, national security and a strong national defense. We hold student essay contests, hand out poppies in front of grocery stores, raise money for disabled vets, and teach patriotism. I have had the honor of riding in the Hi-Yu parade and speaking to students in the local schools. Most people think that we just sit around drinking cheap beer and telling war stories.

That is only partially true. We do provide an atmosphere where members can talk about their experiences and share their stories. My understanding is that the Seattle Police Department has a similar plan with its Critical Incident Stress Management. It is helpful in the healing process to understand stress and to talk with those that have gone before us. I have heard from many Soldiers getting ready to go into harm’s way speaking with a great deal of bravado, and a little bit of fear. They use terms like going to the two-way range, mixing metal with meat, and getting in some trigger time. Well, they usually come back singing a different tune, and we are here to listen. You don’t have to be a Special Forces Fighter Pilot to be proud of your service. In fact, I am waiting to meet one person that drove a truck or served chow that wasn’t a sniper. “All gave some and some gave all.”

We wish to show our Support for the Troops and welcome home veterans from all conflicts, past and present. We are inviting anybody that would like to come out to West Seattle and enjoy a nice barbecue and an afternoon of camaraderie, on Sunday August 20th from 1300 to 1700. That’s 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM for you civilians. It will be an opportunity to meet heroes from every conflict, going back to World War II, and show your appreciation. We have been busy putting a new face on our hall and getting ready for this event. Those with military I.D. or a DD214 will eat for free and receive a small token of appreciation. For those that qualify we are also offering a one-year free membership. You can go to the National Headquarters website to check the requirements, at vfw.org. I have spoken with many veterans, several on this department, that qualify for membership and have never considered joining the VFW. Our Post in West Seattle has almost 10 members associated with the Seattle Police Department and we would love more. Or, you might have a family member that has served that you can send our way and it may qualify you for membership in the VFW Auxiliary. Seeing that our country is at war and we are creating new veterans everyday we need to unite and show our support. Everybody has something to offer and I would ask that you get involved. For membership questions or hall rentals you may call us at 206-935-4352.



Nathan Patterson and Steve Strand plant a memorial tree in front of the West Seattle VFW Hall.

I see

- Adults
- Couples
- Family management issues

dealing with:

- Post-trauma reactions
- Stress management
- Life and Career choice points
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Anger management

.....

I am a licensed clinical psychologist (state license #2433). I have been working with public safety employees since 1975. I was the in-house Seattle Police Clinical Psychologist from 1982--2000. I am now in private practice in the Minor&James Medical Building and still consult with SPD on a variety of issues. I also consult with a number of public safety agencies on local, state, regional,

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Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

By The Guardian Staff

Here are some interesting facts about the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. From 1973 to 1975, SPD Harbor Sergeant Jerry Harris was assigned to this elite unit.

1. How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the Tomb of the Unknowns and why?

21 steps. It alludes to the twenty-one gun salute, which is the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary.

2. How long does he hesitate after his about face to begin the walk and why?

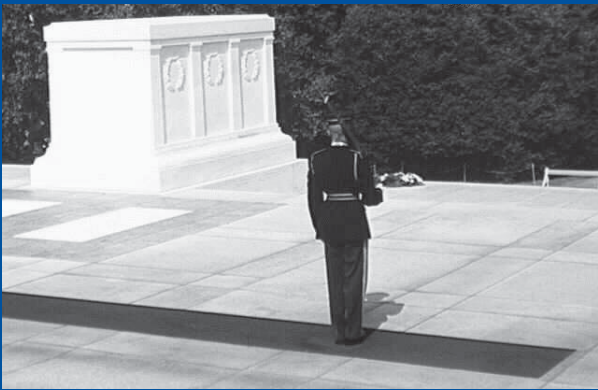
21 seconds, for the same reason as answer number 1.

3. Why are his gloves wet?

His gloves are moistened to prevent him losing his grip on the rifle.

4. Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all the time, and if not, why?

He carries his rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb. After his march across the path, he executes an about face and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.



interred. Among the notables are: President Taft, Joe E. Lewis (the boxer) and Medal of Honor winner Audie Murphy, (the most decorated soldier of WWII) of Hollywood fame.

Every guard spends five hours a day getting his uniforms ready for guard duty.

5. How often are the guards changed?

Guards are changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.

6. What are the physical traits of the guard limited to?

For a person to apply for guard duty at the Tomb, he must be between 5’10” and 6’2” tall and his waist size cannot exceed 30”. Other requirements of the guard: They must commit 2 years of life to guard the Tomb, live in a barracks under the Tomb, and cannot drink any alcohol or smoke on or off duty for the rest of their lives. They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform or the Tomb in any way. After two years,

the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guard of the Tomb. There are only 400 presently worn. The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin.

The shoes are specially made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt. There are no wrinkles, folds, or lint on the uniform. Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror.

During the first six months of duty, a guard cannot talk to anyone, nor watch TV. All off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. A guard must memorize who they are and where they are

“Eternal rest grant them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.”

In 2003 as Hurricane Isabelle was approaching Washington, D.C., our US Senate/House took 2 days of with anticipation of the storm. On the ABC evening news, it was reported that because of the dangers from the hurricane, the military members assigned the duty of guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were given permission to suspend the assignment. They respectfully declined the offer, “No way, Sir!” Soaked to the skin, marching in the pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said that guarding the Tomb was not just an assignment, it was the highest honor that can be afforded to a serviceperson. The tomb has been patrolled continuously, 24/7, since 1930.

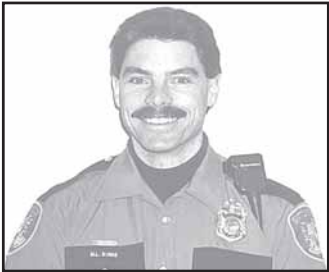
God Bless and keep them.

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Together We Bargain, Seperately We Beg

By Sergeant Roger Dixon,, SPOG Vice President

Some say gathering 14 people together to make a series of decisions, let alone a single decision, is asking the impossible. Complicating the task is the make up of the group; male, female, young, older, with backgrounds as diverse as the range of their ages.

I am describing the composition of the Seattle Police Officers’ Executive Board and the Board of Directors. We argue amongst ourselves, we annoy each other to the point of frustration, and yes, we even agree on occasion. But when a course of action is arrived at by the majority we put argument and separation aside and move forward in your best interest. Guild leadership has a collective total of over 325 year’s law enforcement experience. As a result of those years of service we have achieved a number of lessons learned, some mistakes made, and successes recorded.

It has been said that when 2 or more individuals get together they can’t even agree on the weather. So how does the board of 14 actually arrive at

a decision? The overriding factor is that whatever the decision at hand, the result must be what is best for the members of the Guild. Defining this takes time and effort, but of course that’s what you expect of us. What is in your best interest? The survey you completed in April went a long way in helping us answer that question. The collective results were used to help craft our labor contract proposal. As you read this edition of the *Guardian* the SPOG Negotiation Team is working hard with the goal of presenting you with an acceptable contract.

Members of the Seattle Police Officers’ Guild are as diverse as that of the Guild’s leadership. Different interests, varying backgrounds, and officers of all ages make coming together for a single purpose difficult. Disagreements on issues are healthy, but staying together and on point is exactly what the Seattle Police Officers’ Guild must do. There is an old union saying that puts this in perspective; **together we bargain, separately we beg.**

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Local Cop Goes Behind Bars For Good

By Harriet Benjamin, Bacon Bowl Association

Officer Steve Van Arum #4174, a 28-year Seattle Police veteran stationed at the SW Precinct went to lock up for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) and raised over \$2000.00, qualifying him to be on the MDA wall of fame. Steve only had to serve two hours in lock-up before raising his bail.

On a side note I can’t help but wonder who told him he couldn’t wear his uniform while supporting this worthy cause, as I would think it would be good public relations for SPD, and maybe the local paper would have covered it. However, what do I know??? This I do know: our officers are called the finest because they are!



Health and Safety

By Officer John Abraham
SPD Safety Coordinator and SPOG Sergeant-at-Arms

Summer is upon us and I hope that you all are taking time off to spend time with your families and doing fun and interesting things with them. With summer also comes the sport season for both you and your family members. With sports, outdoor activities and family outings comes the major and minor injuries to the legs and feet. So here are some tips for you and your family “To Stay In The Game” as reported by “Men’s Health Magazine”

Quad, Hamstring and groin Strains: A tearing of muscle fibers causes these strains, and an inflammatory response quickly follows. “Since blood is pooling in the tissues, ice will cause the capillaries to contract and restrict, decreasing blood flow and initiating healing.” Heat will then soothe any lingering discomfort.

Runners Knee: Run past your limit and your kneecap will rub against your femur, causing cartilage damage, inflammation and tendonitis. Relieve the pain with crushed ice. There is no blood in your kneecap so heat is of little use.

Calf Cramp: The overuse of tight calves will lead to painful muscle contractions during and after exercise. Although cold temps may make the calves feel worse at first, “ice will

prevent delaying soreness.” Heat may cause the muscles to feel sore for days.

Shin Splints: Control the pain with ice and you can return to activity. If you can, freeze water in a paper cup, then peel away the cup. Then use the ice block as a massager. Go over the area in a circular motion until it’s numb.

Achilles Tendonitis: A stiff Achilles tendon is one quick moment away from inflammation. Applying heat will loosen the area and promote healing and increasing blood flow to the tissues. A good suggestion is to lay a hot moist towel on the tendon.

Remember to make sure that you warm-up prior to doing any sport. It is essential that all your muscles and tendons are ready for the exercise you are going to impose on them. You should also do a warm-up prior to hitting the street. You might think of doing some isometric stretching while you are on a break during your shift. You never know when you are going to get in a foot chase.

Have a great summer everyone and make sure to spend as much time as you can with your loved ones. Remember....”Your profession is Law Enforcement.... Your job is to go home at the end of your shift! Take Care and Be Safe.

History Corner

(The first of a series of articles reprinted from past *Guardian* publications)
By The Guardian Staff

This Presidents message originally appeared in the May 1974 Guardian and was written by then SPOG President, John P. Sullivan

“Challenging” is the kindest word I can use to describe the current negotiating sessions. For the first time in decades, there exists the distinct possibility that the City of Seattle will be laying off Police Officers. It certainly is not difficult to envision the city’s hue and cry in the near future—that due to salary increases obtained by the Police Guild, it will be necessary to reduce the Police Department manpower in order to balance the city budget. It is political blackmail, that’s what it is! As I view the situation, the plot (as created by city mismanagement) is to integrate police salary demands with the layoff of Police Officers. The simple conclusion is for the Police Officers in this city to continue as the scapegoats of bureaucratic mismanagement and accept insufficient wages and working conditions in order to further perpetuate the “follies of City Hall”.

The fallacy in this theory is the fact that Police Officers will not be further intimidated by the insidious policies which emanate from within the hallowed halls of the Municipal Building.

Further exploitation of Public Safety in Seattle must cease. The Police Guild will negotiate for salaries

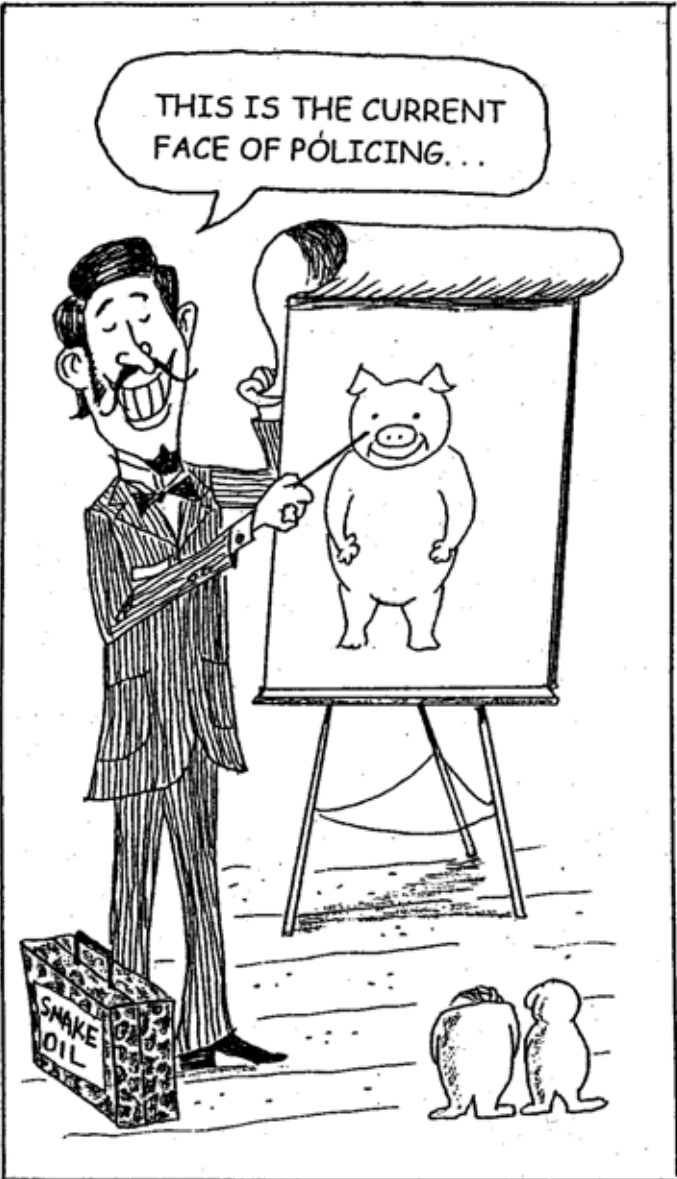
which, at the very minimum, will ease the pangs of the current inflationary spiral. Any subsequent action taken by the city will result in the blame being placed squarely on the shoulders of city management.

Top priority should be emphasized, in the best interests of the city, towards the pubic safety of its citizens. Our civic leaders should be mindful of the correlative fact that as police manpower has been allowed to steadily decline, the incidents of major crime has steadily increased. Far too often, in expressing these obvious facts to those who predicate this city’s destiny, I have come away with the impression that “a wink is as good as a nod to a blind horse.” But this certainly doesn’t speak for all pubic officials. There are those who prioritize citizen’s life and security over that of planting flowers in a lucrative section of the city.

With the assistance of these responsible public officials we shall prevail in offering optimum public safety to the people of Seattle. Obviously, if the profession of Police Officer is properly compensated and staffed, the resultant utility will make Seattle a more attractive and desireable community.

Though the road is perilous in these negotiations sessions, I remain confident of success. The bulwark of the background has been done. One word of caution: if you hear of rumors in the future as a settlement of any kind, call the Guild office and get the facts. Until there is a significant breakthrough, negotiations progress will generally remain at the bargaining table. This will serve to keep rumors to a bare minimum.

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Inaugural Bacon Bowl Run a Success!

By Harriet Benjamin, Bacon Bowl Association President

The first Bacon Bowl Association’s 5K was held on July 1, 2006 at the Seattle Center with approximately 152 people participating in that portion of the days events. Following the walk/ run were activities inside Fisher Pavilion for children including, football toss, baseball toss, kiss the fish, CSI Treasurer Hunt, face painting, clowns, bouncing room and others. While the children were busy taking part in the day’s activities, others from the public were busy with all the law enforcement displays.

The kids found the Mounted Patrol to be their first choice along with the Bomb Squad robot giving out suckers. The adults were busy inspecting what their tax money pays for including the addition of homeland security equipment. Motorcycle officers took Polaroid photos of the kids on a motorcycle, while at the same time Motorcycle Officer Kenny Lee was keeping the walkers/runners from harm.

The local public seemed duly impressed with Seattle P.D.and Tacoma P.D. equipment but most certainly with the Officers they had talked to throughout the day.

There was a K-9 Officer from Wisconsin there with his two children,



couples from Idaho, Montana, Oregon and California that just couldn’t seem to get enough of the whole day and had nothing but praise for the entire event.

Special thanks and kudos go to the Seattle Police Officers Guild, COMPAS and the Seattle Police Management Association for their invaluable support in the form of money and personnel. With Lieutenants William Edwards, Andy Tooke, Eric Sano and Jim Fitzgerald, The SPMA exceeded the amount of support they gave last year and became “Leaders of the Pack.”

Appreciation and support from Cheryl Lair and her crew was an added bonus this year. We look forward to their continued support.

Not to be outdone were retired SPD Lieutenant Chris Kolar & wife Diane, Lieutenant Dick Hybak, Retired Sergeant Terry Augerson and wife Diane, Rozanne McClary and Dara McClary wife & daughter of retired DEA agent Dixon McClary, as well as active members of SPOG and their wives including Virgie Meduna, Officer Mike Lewis, Sergeant Alvin Little, Lisa & Chelsea Edwards, the PEO’s and many others. Please

forgive me if I missed including your names.

Thanks also go to the civilian volunteers from the various charities, real estate agents, and Bacon Bowl friends and supporters.

We can’t forget the King County volunteers, Tacoma Police volunteers including but not limited to Detective Chris Taylor and wife Joyce, Lieutenant Fred Scruggs, Officer John Weinzell L.E.Y.C. & support of the King County Corrections Guild and many, many others.

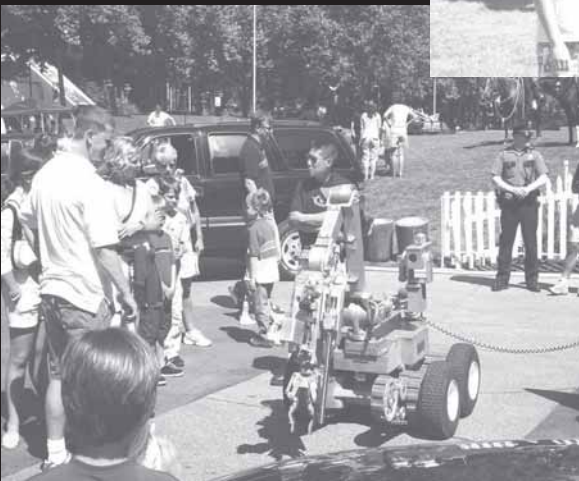
A special hug and kiss to Detective Everett Edwards, Lieutenant William Edwards, KCSO Detective Pat McCurdy, Officer Vic Minor (Bacon Bowl web master) and Detective Steve Strand for the bulk of the work.

This is just one of the events Bacon Bowl is planning for the year so keep your eye on *The Guardian* for future events and as soon as all the bills etc are paid we will have a final total of monies raised.

My love and most sincere thanks to all and a job well done!

Lieutenant Eric Sano poses with members of his fan club.

Detective Scott Kawahara explains the Arson Bomb Squad Robot.



Running Stars of the Future!



The ever popular Mounted Patrol Officers Rick Nelson and J.D. Martin show off their horses.



Chief Kerlikowske, Harriet Benjamin, Lisa Edwards and Anna Laslo take a break from the day’s activities.



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Retired News

By Mike Germann

New Sworn Seattle Police Retirements

This month, there are two LEOFF I retirements and two LEOFF II retirements to announce:

LEOFF I's

Felix G. “Bud” Solis, Jr., #3440, Seattle Police Patrol Officer retired for service on July 19, 2006, after 36 years with S.P.D.

Bud had an interesting and enjoyable law enforcement career with the Seattle Police Department. He stayed in patrol, preferring to work at the “street” level for the duration of his career. He started in the West Precinct and remained there until 1976 when he was then assigned to the North Precinct. Shortly after his transfer north, he began to work with Officer Dale Eggers. Dale was the only partner Bud had for many years and the time with Dale was fun, varied, and always interesting and enjoyable. Dale’s life was cut short in 1984, and from then on, Bud only wanted to work a one man car. Bud spent 16 years working in the north end enjoying his time there while earning 24 letters of commendation from the Mayor of Seattle, judges, detectives and the many citizens he came in contact with. Going back to the West Precinct in the early 1990’s, Bud again stayed in patrol for a few years until he was assigned to drive the prisoner van where he ended his assigned duties as 3 David 10. Bud said he got a particular satisfaction when he signed off for the final time, and the Chief dispatcher came back over the air and stated, “3 David 10 is out of service; 3 David 10, thank you for 36 years of dedicated service.” After all the years he worked in patrol, Bud said that was the only time he could remember the Chief Dispatcher saying anything like that. For many years before he joined SPD and during his career Bud has enjoyed competing in shooting tournaments both local and across the United States. Starting with pistol competitions in the 1960’s to rifle shooting and the present. Bud has amassed numerous successes and titles. He’s an outstanding marksman. He has set over a dozen United States National Records, the first when he was 19 years old. He set his most recent National Records in June of this year at the Washington State 300 Yard Championships. He tied the US Open record along with the police record, and set the senior category record. This is the 4th time Bud had been the 300 Yard State Champion. Bud’s favorite moment in competition was being the first police officer in the United States and the first rifle shooter in Washington to shoot a perfect score in a registered Palma match over the 800, 900 and 1000 yard course of fire. Bud plans to stay in the area with his wife, Marilyn, and continue to enjoy life where “every day is Saturday.”

Theodore C. Jacoby, #3959, Seattle Assistant Chief of Police, retired for service on July 26, 2006 following thirty years and nine months of Seattle Police Department service.

Ted was hired by the Seattle Police Department on October 15, 1975 as a police recruit. Previously, he was a helicopter pilot with the U.S. Army and a Viet Nam veteran (two tours). Following graduation from Police Academy Class #78 (where he was one of the top three), Ted was assigned first to uniformed patrol, then as a detective.

Ted’s career with S.P.D. has been stellar. He advanced through the promotional ranks to his current rank of Assistant Chief of Police. At the same time, Ted kept current with the U.S. Army Reserve, retiring at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. His range of assignments covered the whole spectrum of police work, including communications, to his last assignment as the Assistant Chief in charge of what’s now called “Emergency Preparedness Bureau.” This is a very complex job revolving around the protection of persons and property from unexpected catastrophic events. Ted is one of those rare individuals who can handle field operations, technical and administrative responsibilities equally well all at the same time.

Ted Jacoby is one of the finest men and very best Seattle Police Officers that you will ever meet. More than most, he is goal driven (determined) but able to keep that balance (perspective) that makes him what he is.

We wish Ted and his wife of 33 years, Pat, all the best in retirement.

LEOFF II's

Stephen K. O’Leary, #4333, Seattle Police Patrol Officer and Homicide Detective, retired for service on July 10, 2006, following 26 years and six moths of Seattle Police service. Steve joined the Seattle Police Department as a “police recruit” on December 3, 1979. Following basic police academy training with Class 119, Steve was appointed a Seattle Police Officer on March 26, 1980. He was assigned both as a uniformed patrol officer and as a detective. In 1995, while assigned as a Homicide Detective, Steve was one of the primary investigators of the Pang warehouse fire, in which four Seattle Firefighters lost their lives. Martin Pang was successfully prosecuted for this heinous crime, thanks in large measure to the efforts of Steve O’Leary (who pursued Pang to Brazil) and others, to include Detective Sergeant Don Cameron, another legend in his own time.

Steve O’Leary is an avid hunter and fisherman. He’s not computer oriented by any means, but he is a talented gourmet cook. Word has it that he can enter the kitchens of certain upscale restaurants where he is known and prepare a first class gourmet meal. Steve is a multi-talented guy and people who know him think the world of him.

Here’s wishing Steve and Marta a wonderful retirement in and around Concrete, Washington. You might find him fishing on the Skagit River.

Gregory D. Mixsell, #4487, Seattle Police Homicide Detective – Cold Case Investigations, retired on July 31, 2006 following 26 years of sworn service.

Greg was hired by the Seattle PD in August 1980. After the academy and FTO stints, he spent 4 years in uniformed patrol, working Charlie sector, second watch. He had some interesting sergeants, including O.C. Burt and Chuck Pillon.

Greg took the detectives test, qualified, and left patrol for the Special Assault Unit. He spent 3 years there working for Sergeants Lee Libby and Bill Moffat and beside Detectives Rick Buckland, Jodi Russell and Dale Harper. They did some great work there.

The next 6 years were spent working in the Robbery Unit. Greg worked with one of the SPD’s best men and detectives there, Don MacMillan. You couldn’t ask for a better friend or partner. Ed Caalim and Ed Striedinger were his sergeants.

Greg’s last twelve years were in the Homicide/ Assault Unit, the first 7 years as a “next up” detective and the last 6 years in the Cold Case Unit of Homicide. He again had the honor of working with some of the best SPD had to offer, including Walt Maning, Cloyd Steiger, Dick Gagnon and Mike Ciesynski. Cindy Tallman was his sergeant for most of his “next up” time in Homicide, with Bob Vallor his sergeant during his last few years in Cold Case. What a crew!!!

Greg says working the Cold Case Unit was his most rewarding assignment. This work took him across the country, to New Jersey, Florida, Nevada, New Mexico and California, as well as Montreal, Quebec. It even landed him on television a few times!!!

Greg can’t say what his future will hold. He’ll just take it one day at a time. He’ll play a little golf, do a little fishing and maybe see if there really is life after SPD.

Greg Mixsell is one of the finest criminal investigators the Seattle Police Department ever produced. He learned from the best of the best. Enjoy your retirement, Greg. You’ve certainly earned it.

The Guild actively urges its members to write articles for publication in *The Guardian*. The newspaper cannot survive without membership contributions. All articles submitted for publication will be accepted subject to editorial review and changes. The editor shall retain the decision to publish, not publish, or edit an article. The editor’s decision to publish or not publish an article can be appealed to the editorial board, which shall have final and binding decision making authority over the publication of the article. Articles appearing under an author’s byline do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Seattle Police Officers’ Guild.

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Retirees’ Birthdays for the Month of August 2006

Abbey, Betty F.	8/29	Lambert, Michael L. “Mike”	8/21
Airhart, Woneata	8/30	Lee, Ruth A.	8/23
Ammerman, Robert B. “Bob”	8/17	Leidholm, A. Louise	8/25
Andersen, Robert M. “Little Andy”	8/9	Lima, Allan R. “Al”	8/5
Anderson, Harold J. “Big Andy”	8/22	McKenna, Karen L.	8/20
Baumgartner, Robert W. “Bob”	8/17	McRae, Vernon L. “Vern”	8/17
Berghmans, Elizabeth “Lee”	8/1	Meln, Beverly	8/8
Beveridge, Eileen L.	8/13	Moran, Edvina M. “Eddy”	8/20
Bierut, William M. “Bill”	8/31	Morris, Robert L. “Bob”	8/10
Bishop, William H. “Billy”	8/20	Munson, Clifford J. “Cliff”	8/15
Brenton, Thomas L. “Tom”	8/13	Myers, Roger D.	8/1
Burden, John D.	8/26	Nelson, Debra S. “Debbie”	8/13
Butcher, Franklin G. “Frank”	8/23	Nelson, Ellen D.	8/30
Caldwell, Jerry G.	8/2	Nelson, John N.	8/12
Carr, Richard D. “Dick”	8/31	Nielson, Beverly J.	8/23
Carson, John L. “J.C.”	8/22	Nilsen, Ralph E.	8/22
Christophersen, Robert A. “Bobby”	8/13	O’Hare, Margaret A. “Margie”	8/28
Dahl, Hilda L.	8/28	O’Leary, Carl M.	8/15
Daniels, Donald G. “Don”	8/9	Olson, Arlene E.	8/24
Davis, Robert A. “Bob”	8/29	Parks, Joseph W. “Panama Joe”	8/9
Day, Elizabeth “Liz”	8/2	Philbrick, James L. “Jim”	8/10
Deacy, Michael F.	8/8	Phillips, Gregory D. “Greg”	8/27
Dorris, Thelma M.	8/27	Poltrock, Jeanne	8/5
Dunn, James W. “Jim”	8/2	Price, Gordon K. “Gordy”	8/22
Ehli, Barbara C.	8/4	Ramar, Shirley I.	8/28
Elster, Clark B.	8/15	Ray, Charles W. “Charlie”	8/29
Farmer, Metta B.	8/24	Ray, Gary B. “G.B.”	8/15
Fenner, Bruce E.	8/25	Reed, Sidney J. “Sid”	8/17
Franklin, Georgia L.	8/27	Ritter, David C. “Dave”	8/26
French, Harry F.	8/25	Sanders, Victor A. “Vic”	8/10
Fulk, Kenneth D. “Kenny”	8/24	Sherwood, Richard G. “Dick”	8/11
Gagnier, Virginia L.	8/17	Skaret, Morest L. “Morrie”	8/2
Gehlhoff, Duane A.	8/30	Smith, H. Michael “Mike”	8/7
Gerdes, Allen G. “Al”	8/4	Stanton, Jack H.	8/31
Gray, Jeanette	8/12	Stowe, Mary F.	8/16
Grayson, David W. “Dave”	8/9	Sullivan, John P. “John Patrick”	8/3
Haimes, Gloria L.	8/28	Swanson, Jeannette M.	8/1
Hallowell, Mary M.	8/14	Taylor, William M. “Bill”	8/22
Hancock, Sonny	8/5	Thomas, Evan W.	8/21
Hanson, John L. “Jack”	8/24	Tolliver, Joe W.	8/31
Henning, Michael R. “Mike”	8/12	Wallace, Jerrell C. “Jerry”	8/21
Holsworth, Jean	8/1	Weamire, Paul E.	8/8
Homan, Duane L.	8/11	Wesley, Dorothy P.	8/18
Hughlitt, Lucille	8/17	Whalen, Robert C. “Bob”	8/18
Jackson, Irene T.	8/27	White, Martin L. “Marty”	8/16
Jackson, Rodney V. “Rod”	8/28	Whitney, Ralph C. “Rotten Ralph”	8/19
Johnson, James W. “Jim”	8/19	Williams Albert E. “Al”	8/31
Johnson, Michael G. “Mike”	8/18	Williams Robert L. “Bob:	8/26
Jones, Francis R. “Frank”	8/5	Wingstrand, Brent E.	8/25
Kennedy, Arthur R. “Rick”	8/17	Yeager, Leslie M. “Les”	8/31
Kramer, William H. “Bill”	8/18	Zentner, Carman J. “C.J.”	8/17

Last Ring

Garhard S. “Bud” Jelberg, #1605, retired Seattle Police Detective, age 80, passed away on July 5, 2006 at Providence Medical Center, Colby Campus in Everett, WA. He was born to William and Anna Jelberg on March 3, 1926, in Winona, MN. He attended Rushford schools and graduated in 1944. He served in the U.S. Navy during WWII (1944-1946). In 1946, he moved to Seattle, married Joyce Sieverson and son, Thomas was born. In 1953, he married Odrun Laksholm. They celebrated 50 years together in 2003. In 1955, he started as a patrolman with the Seattle Police Department. During the ensuing 25 years at SPD, he worked burglary, pawn shop, and missing persons, on notable cases. Memorials may be made to Peace Lutheran Church of Monroe, WA.

Thomas E. Torvik, #3165, retired Seattle Police Patrol Officer and one of the original stakeholders of the North Precinct, passed away after a short illness on July 16, 2006, in Henderson, Nevada. He was 60 years old upon his death. Tom is survived by his wife of 31 years, Karen, two daughters-Stephanie and Kristel and a son-Thomas. No funeral services are planned. Eventually his ashes will be interred at Evergreen-Washelli in Seattle

Delorus D. Duty, age 71, passed away in Montana on May 22, 2006. She was the widow of deceased retired Seattle Police Patrol Sergeant Joe C. Duty, who was a Seattle Police Officer from September 1, 1951 until his retirement on May 10, 1972 and who passed away on ec 15, 1988.

Mary Ellen Brozovich, age 85, passed away in Seattle on June 29, 2006. She was the widow of deceased retired Seattle Police Lieutenant Jasper “Jay” Brozovich, who was a Seattle Police officer from February 1, 1943 until his retirement on August 25, 1970, and who passed away on April 15, 1991.

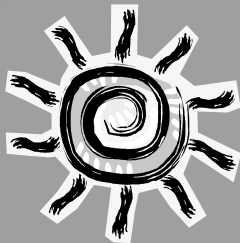
Condolences To

Retired Seattle Police Officer Tommy C. Caldwell on the passing his wife, **Donna L. Caldwell**, age 68, who passed away at Evergreen Hospice in Kirkland on June 16, 2006 with husband and daughter by her side. She is survived by her husband of 38 years, Tommy, a daughter and several grandchildren. Donna and Tommy would have celebrated their 39th wedding anniversary on September 1, 2006. She requested no funeral services be held. Remembrances may be sent to Evergreen Hospice.

Retired Seattle Police Major Charles R. “Ray” Connery on the passing of his wife, **Anne Marie Connery**, age 74, who passed away in Sun City Arizona on June 24, 2006. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Ray and her two daughters, four grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. Ray returned to the Seattle area for a brunch in her honor at the Berean Bible Church in Shoreline.

Retired Seattle Police Major John A. Leitch on the passing of his wife, **Shirley Jeanne Leitch**, age 77, who passed away in Edmonds, Washington on June 28, 2006. She is survived by her husband of 55 years, John, 4 children and numerous grandchildren. Services were held on July 3, 2006 in Edmonds.

Retired Seattle Police Sergeant Alvin G. “Al” Wilding on the passing of his wife, **Charlotte H. “Lotte” Wilding**, who passed away at home on Shaw Island on July 17, 2006. She is survived by her husband of 52 years, Al, a son, three daughters, five grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Funeral arrangements for burial on Shaw Island are underway.



The SPOG Board and Staff wish you a safe and happy summer!!



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Editor's Notes

By Officer Ron Smith, West Precinct



2006 has been a year of new precedents for the Department. This is the first year that in order to be granted a secondary work permit, one must attest that they have completed Street Skills, qualified with their duty weapon and have received a satisfactory personnel assessment. I don't object to any of those prongs, and I appreciate that off duty work is not a right, rather a privilege. My only question is that since Street Skills is only mandatory for officers, sergeants and detectives, what about those personnel holding the rank of Lieutenant or above that work off duty; are they required to jump through the same hoops? I would hope the rules are the same for everyone.

Recently the Chief referred an officer involved shooting to the Kent Police Department, under the stated goal of transparency in the process. This is another new precedent for the Department, as from what I can tell this is the first time an officer involved shooting has been farmed out to another agency, much less one with a grand total of sixteen detectives. Not only is this a new, and in my opinion a "slippery slope" precedent, it is also a slap in the face to our fifteen Homicide Detectives, three Homicide Detective Sergeants and Homicide Lieutenant. The information I gleaned was that the felony assault case against the attorney who put the boots to one of our own was all but finished and ready to be filed with the King County Prosecutor when the decision to send the case to Kent PD occurred. Not only is this a morale issue, but it is also a body of work issue. The things that sink morale around this place!

Finally, I have been told that three officers have just had a beef filed with the OPA by their watch commander; two for taking a well earned sick day, and the other for taking a vacation day. Since all three officers were off on the same day, the watch commander formed the opinion that this was an organized "job action." Is this a new precedent in the works, when the brass doesn't think you are sick they file a beef with the Gestapo? Wait a minute; if we as law enforcement can't get information about the status of victims and suspects at Harborview due to HIPPA, what business does the department have asking about the nature of your malady? Furthermore, whatever happened to work place problems or issues being handled at the supervisor level? There must be a new edict that dictates (no pun intended) that all issues must pass across the desk of the OPA Director, because after all, she knows best! Once again, morale is plummeting!

Thank God we have a STRONG Guild to fight back when the rights of its members are trampled upon with reckless disregard from above! Know your rights and vigorously fight to protect each and every one of them!

Many of you might be displaying one of the distinctive blue bear stickers on your car, or maybe you put one on your spouse's car. While I understand some of the reasons for doing so, I resisted that move when they started showing up a few years back, as I didn't care to advertise to the dirt bag community that I am 5-0. If you haven't heard, there has been a recent rash of car prowls to our own officer's vehicles, with at least one having a blue bear on the back window. According to several law enforcement sources, some interviews with car prowlers and auto thieves have disclosed that the meaning of the bears stickers is known in the "tweaker" circles, as well as which color belongs to what type of agency. Some of those interviewed said they target those vehicles because they expect to find police ID's, badges, police equipment and guns in the vehicles. As far as I'm concerned those stickers only advertise "I'm a cop, come rip me off!" No disrespect to those of you who fly one of these stickers, or for that matter the entrepreneur who sells them, but you might want to think twice about the consequences before it's too late.

I heard back from Ernie after he received his July *Guardian*, and he is confident the Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback will be back in action for the 2006 season after stacking up his crotch rocket. According to Ernie, "Big Ben will be ready for the opener, so opponents better put on their helmets and pull up their jock straps." Many of you have asked; Ernie is Uncle B's dad.

Take care of yourselves and each other, and take the time between being drafted for the summer events to enjoy yourselves and your families! Feel free to contact me with your comments and suggestions at spogguardian@yahoo.com. "Neither a wise nor a brave man lies down on the tracks of history to wait for the train of the future to run over him."- Dwight D. Eisenhower

Calendar of Events

SeaFair BBQ for Ronald McDonald House Kids and Survivor Families at the Hydro Races
Saturday, August 5th from 1000 to 1800 hours

Seattle Police Relief Association board meeting at the SPRAG Office
Wednesday, August 9th at 1300 hours

Seattle Police Officers' Guild general membership meeting at the Guild Office
Wednesday, August 30th at 2000 hours

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